



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

COOS BAY DISTRICT OFFICE

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5400/1792  
Dora Dora Dora  
OR120-04-31  
Lower East Fork Coquille  
EA OR128-02-01

## DECISION DOCUMENTATION

for  
**Dora Dora Dora**  
**OR120-04-31**

### Background

The Dora Dora Dora Timber Sale (OR120-TS04-31) is a portion of Alternative II of the Lower East Fork Coquille Environmental Assessment (EA) OR128-02-01 which concluded with a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) dated 01/07/2003. The proposed commercial thinning (CT) activities for the Dora Dora Dora Timber Sale are located in T28S, R11W, Secs. 9, 16, and 21; Willamette Meridian of Coos County.

The following table shows the relationship between the Dora Dora Dora unit numbers and the EA unit numbers:

Table 1:

Dora Dora Dora Unit Number	EA Unit Number
1	7
2	8
3	17

The EA is tiered to the Coos Bay District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan, (RMP) as supplemented and amended (USDI 1995), which is in conformance with the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Habitat for the Late Successional and Old Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl and its Record of Decision (ROD), (Northwest Forest Plan), as supplemented and amended

(USDA-USDI 1994).

Commercial thinning treatments would occur in the Matrix land use allocation, while Density Management would occur in associated Riparian Reserves as defined in the *Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan*, 1995 and the Interagency *FSEIS Record of Decision* (ROD), 1994.

Informal consultation under Section 7(A)(4) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 [16 U.S.C. 1563 (a)(2) and (a)(4) as amended] was completed with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service, where it was determined that this action would not likely adversely affect listed species or critical habitat. The proposed action would not contribute to the need to list any of the special status species. The estimated environmental effects contained in the EA are based on research, professional judgment, and the experience of the Interdisciplinary Team. No significant adverse impacts are expected on (1) Air Quality, (2) Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, (3) Cultural Resource Values, (4) Prime or Unique Farmland, (5) Flood Plains, (6) Native American Religious Concerns and/or Indian Trust Resources, (7) Hazardous Materials/Solid Waste, (8) Threatened or Endangered Species, (9) Water Quality, (10) Wetlands and Riparian Zones, (11) Wild and Scenic Rivers, (12) Wilderness Values, (13) Noxious Weeds, (14) Port Orford cedar Management, (15) Environmental Justice, (16) Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives, or (17) Energy production, transmission, or conservation.

The general public was informed of the planned EA through a letter (February 14, 2002) to those on the Resource Area's mailing list (which included adjacent landowners and the public requesting scoping notice of timber sale EAs), and to those receiving the District's *Planning Update* (Spring, 2002). An announcement was also posted on the District's Internet site, <http://www.or.blm.gov/coosbay>. Four public responses for scoping were received. The public was informed of the EA and FONSI through a letter (February 11, 2003), through a published Legal Notice in *The World* newspaper (January 13, 2003), and through the District's Internet site. Six public responses were received. Comments received along other developments have indicated the need for some changes to the EA:

- 1) A table and map depicting the recommended no treatment zones along individual stream reaches will be added to Appendix 2 of the EA and Section L of the Analysis File.
- 2) EA Page 20 paragraph 2 Original : *Each stream has been assigned a no-treatment buffer to retain direct overhead shading. In addition, the streams within the project units are considered intermittent/ephemeral thus; do not contribute surface flows during the critical summer months, when peak stream temperatures occur.* Revised: *Each stream has been assigned a no-treatment buffer to retain direct overhead shading. In addition, the majority of the streams within the project units are considered intermittent/ephemeral thus; do not contribute surface flows during the critical summer months, when peak stream temperatures occur. EA units 3 and 5, which are immediately adjacent to perennial streams, have increased no-treatment buffer zones of approximately 75 and 110 feet respectively.*

- 3) An addendum to the Lower East Fork Coquille EA has been added to Section S of the Analysis file. This addendum discusses the Port-Orford cedar and Sudden Oak Death management directions that will be included in the Dora Dora Dora Timber Sale.

## **Decision**

I have decided to offer for sale portions of the Lower East Fork Coquille EA units, as shown in Table 1, which will now be referred to as the Dora Dora Dora Timber Sale (OR120-04-31). This action consists of three (3) commercial thinning units in GFMA, totaling 41 acres. This total acreage includes approximately 6 acres of Density Management treatments in riparian reserve.

This project will enhance or maintain the growth and vigor of young stands through commercial thinnings and manage the Riparian Reserves through Density management thinning to acquire desired vegetation characteristics and to facilitate attainment of ACS objectives. Design features include retaining existing snags and down logs, leaving additional down trees after treatment, and creation of snags. New road construction equals .16 miles which will be decommissioned after use. This project will also decommission an additional .95 miles of existing roads. This project would produce approximately 270 thousand board feet of timber. Treatments will be accomplished using skyline yarding and ground-base systems. The Design Features described in the EA and Best Management Practices described in the RMP (such as yarding method, snag creation, and down log creation/retention) are hereby adopted.

## **Rational For Decision**

This project meets the goals and addresses the management opportunities set forth in the *Coos Bay District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan*, (RMP, BLM, 1995), and the *Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Habitat for the Late Successional and Old Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* and its Record of Decision (ROD), (Northwest Forest Plan, Interagency, 1994).

Section 2.0 of the EA describes two alternatives: a “No Action” alternative and a “Proposed Action” alternative. The No Action alternative was not selected because it would not meet the objectives of enhancing the growth and vigor of the Matrix and Riparian Reserves, produce a sustainable supply of timber and other forest commodities, and manage the road system according to the transportation management objectives.

Informal consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for this project resulted in a Letter of Concurrence (1-15-01-J-278) on April 5, 2002 that this action would not likely adversely affect listed wildlife species or critical habitat.

Informal Consultation with NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service has been completed. The Letter of Concurrence dated June 13, 2003 agreed that the proposed actions constitute a “not likely to adversely affect” to listed fish species and Essential Fish Habitat (EFH).

In accordance with Forest Management Regulations at 43 CFR 5003.2, the decision for this Timber Sale will not become effective until the Notice of Sale is published in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the lands affected by decision are located. For this project, the Notice of Sale will be published in *The World* newspaper.

**Decision recommended by:**

Natural Resource Staff Administrator

For Chris Church Robert Raper

Date: 7/27/2004

Natural Resource Staff Administrator

Terri Colby Teresa A. Colby

Date: 7/26/2004

Natural Resource Staff Administrator

Gregg Nelson Gregg Nelson

Date: 7/26/2004

**Decision approved by:**

Acting Myrtlewood Field Office Manager

W. Carl Linderman Carl Linderman

Date: 7/27/2004